

PUGET SOUND PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTOR SOCIETY

WHAT: REGULAR MEETING OF PSPCS

WHERE: DES MOINES MASONIC TEMPLE, 2208 S. 223RD ST (TAKE MIDWAY EXIT OFF I-5, GO TO FIRST STOP LIGHT WEST OF PACIFIC AVE SOUTH, TURN RIGHT UNTIL 223RD, THEN TURN WEST (LEFT). THE TEMPLE IS JUST WEST OF THE FIRE STATION)

WHEN: THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH (EXCEPT JULY & AUGUST). NEXT MEETING IS 11/19/15, 7 - 9 PM (DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM)

WHY: TO SHARE AND ENJOY THE COMPANY OF OTHER WHO ARE INTERESTED IN COLLECTING EVERYTHING PHOTOGRAPHIC

MEETING AGENDA: A SHORT BUSINESS MEETING, SHOW & TELL, **CAMERA REPORT**, AUCTION (ONE ITEM PER MEMBER) AND DOOR PRIZE

Special points of interest:

- *Universal Camera*



Even the dealers at our show will show their colors. Go



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Universal Cameras

Lew Regelman - re-printed and used with permission from PHSNE *Snap Shot* (11/15)

Founded in 1932 and located in New York City, the Universal Camera Company produced some unusual cameras for about two decades. Most of their models were very inexpensive, including the small Bakelite Model A which sold for 39 cents when introduced in 1932 and the art deco Univex AF-2, released in 1936, which sold for \$1.50 (more than a million were sold by 1937).

In the late 1930s, Universal tried to escape the "cheap camera" label and produced the Mercury series, designed to compete with the expensive Leica and Contax cameras; at \$25 it was quite a bargain. It featured the world's first hot shoe to shoot synchronized flash pictures. With a rotary shutter that formed a "hump" along the back of the camera, it was a strange looking piece of equipment. This shutter was more accurate than that of the Leica or Contax according to Harvard Observatory tests. The

Mercury CC took half-frame pictures, and shutter speeds were 1/20th to 1/1000th of a second plus B & T. The back has a complicated exposure calculator which required two-and-a-half pages of explanation in the instruction manual.

Another art deco camera, the Iris Standard Candid Camera, introduced in 1938, had a fixed-focus collapsible lens. A black crinkled enamel finish coated the zinc body. Other features included a chrome lens barrel and a satin chrome panel around the lens mount.

Universal's Iris and another model, the Zenith, used film manufactured by the Gevaert Company in Belgium. When war broke out in Europe, the film was no longer available. Many cameras, especially Zeniths, were tossed, and the Zeniths are now rare finds for collectors. Eventually, Universal was unable to compete with other manufacturers, and the company went out of business in 1964. An interesting and well-illustrated chronicle of the company's history is available in a book by Cynthia A. Repinski titled The

Univex Story: Universal Camera Corporation. Detailed information about Universal cameras is available at tinyurl.com/pzy337g.

Additional Tidbits on the Web

Bob Kelly's other interest in railroad history. The [Wellington Av-lanche](http://www.wellington-av-lanche.com)

Western Photographic Historical Society ([WPHS](http://www.wphs.org))

The Photographic History Society of New England ([PHSNE](http://www.phsne.org))

The Photographic Historical Society Rochester NY ([TPHS](http://www.tphs.org))

PSPCS on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/puguetphotographiccollectorsociety). Come see what you are missing!

Program: Camera Reports

Merle Carey and Darrel Womack will give camera reports at our November's meeting.





PSPCS Meeting Minutes - October 15, 2015

The Meeting was called to order by Mike Immel at 7:00PM. There were 21 members or guests in attendance.

Officers present were: Mike Immel – President, Walt Hughson – Vice President, Don Friend – Secretary, Treasurer – Shirley Sparrow.

Announcements: Vancouver Canada Show is October 25th. San Jose Show is Nov. 7th.

Old Business: Please pay your dues

New Business: We are getting the Show Committee ready for this coming year. Please let Mike Immel know if you want to serve.

Camera Report: Bill Adams gave a report on a Minolta 110 camera with electronic flash. Merle Carey will do a report at the November meeting.

Show and Tell: 7 members brought or told stories about 15 different items plus a multitude of light meters.

Auction: 1 items was available for auction and sold for \$5.00. .

Door Prize: The door prize tonight was won by Bob Peters.

Contact Information

The Bellows Newsletter is published 10 times per year by the Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society, Inc. Editor: Michael Immel email—shutterf64@yahoo.com

Information for the Bellows should be sent to: shutterf64@yahoo.com

The PSPCS internet address is <http://www.pspcs.org>

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Puget-Sound-Photographic-Collectors-Society/125678560778201>

Wiki - <http://fastglass.wikispaces.com/>

Dues are \$20.00 per year (Jan-Dec) and should be sent to Treasurer Shirley Sparrow, 300 Pease Road Cle Elum, WA. 98922. (509) 674-1916, Email: sesparrow9@msn.com

Courts Consider Two Significant (and Interesting!) Copyright Issues

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permission from PHSNE Snap Shot (11/15)

Maier Photos Continue to be Contested



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File:Vivian_Maier.jpg#/media/
File:Vivian_Maier.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Vivian_Maier.jpg#/media/File:Vivian_Maier.jpg)

At the February 2015 PHSNE meeting, presenter Karin Rosenthal spoke about Vivian Maier's "remarkable street photography [that] took the world by storm in 2010." The snap shots write-up about the meeting made note of the fact that there were issues about the production and sale of these photographs. That turns out to be a gross understatement.

The controversy over copyrights to Maier's images has received considerable publicity recently. 10,000 undeveloped negatives were found in a locker on which Maier had defaulted (upshout.com/Vivian-maier), the contents of which were purchased in 2007 by John Maloof. The contents of storage lockers usually belong to the storage company in cases of default, but it's not clear whether that would include copyrights.

What must now be sorted out is who has rights to the images: Maloof, who purchased the lot at auction; cousins in France (who hadn't heard of her before) who have been identified as the nearest living relatives—and, if so, which one; or the owner of the locker that hadn't been paid for. Furthermore, Maloof was not the only one who purchased images from the liquidators (there were five lockers in default), so there could be several other claims.

A Los Angeles Times article (July 13, 2015) notes that "Copyright doesn't automatically transfer with the sale of a physical object. One can own a negative or a print, while not controlling the rights for sale and reproduction." The courts must determine her legal heirs (she left no will) and, at the same

time, what copyrights Maier had when she died, and ultimately, who currently possesses them.

Sadly, the controversy may prevent her work from being displayed, depriving the public of an opportunity to see her striking images. Maloof co-directed a documentary that was nominated for an academy award. For more information, and to view a trailer, visit findingvivianmaier.com.

Serious Monkey Business

Taking a selfie is a common everyday occurrence, except when the photographer is a monkey. Naruto, a six year old macaque monkey living on the Indonesian island Sulawesi, pressed a camera button after British nature photographer David Slater set a camera on a tripod.

So who took the picture? And, more important, who owns the copyright. The animal rights group PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) claims that the monkey took the picture and filed suit in September 2015 to have the proceeds go to benefit Naruto. Claiming full responsibility for the setup and results, Slater maintains he holds the copyright. According to Wikipedia, “Slater's claim of copyright . . . was disputed by several scholars and organizations, based on an understanding that copyright was held by the creator, and that a non-human creator (not being a legal person) could not hold copyright. In December 2014, the United States Copyright Office stated that works created by a non-human are not subject to U.S. copyright.”